



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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July 18, 2002

TO: Internal Files

FROM: Stephen J. Demczak, Sr. Reclamation Specialist/Engineering, Team Lead

RE: Transmission Line, Consolidation Coal Company, Emery Deep Mine, C/015/015-02D

SJD by ar

SUMMARY:

The permittee has submitted an amendment to construct a power line from the existing substation to the 4th East portals. The total length of the transmission line is 1.4 miles. The permittee will install approximately 38 power poles. The total disturbance will be 0.002 acres. No road will be used to service the power lines.

The permittee plans to construct the power lines once approval is given.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

HISTORIC AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 783.12; R645-301-411.

Analysis:

The Division had determined that the proposed road linking County Road #907 to County Road #915, and the 4th East portals needed another historical and archeological study, since this power line is near or adjacent to the new proposed road and enters into the 4th East Portal facilities. The permittee will need to do an archeological survey along the power line corridor.

TECHNICAL MEMO

Findings:

The information provided is not considered adequate and must address the following R645 Coal Rules.

R645-301-411.142 thru R645-301-143.2, the permittee must do a Historic and Archeological study along the power line corridor and receive clearance from SHIPO to construct the power line.

FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 784.21; R645-301-322.

Analysis:

The Division had determined that the proposed road linking County Road #907 to County Road #915, and the 4th East portals needed an updated study of endangered or threatened species of plants and animals, since this power line is near or adjacent to the new proposed road and enters into the 4th East Portal facilities. The permittee will need to do a study of endangered or threatened species of plants and animals along the power line corridor.

The permittee has submitted a raptor-protect design for the power poles. This design is on Plate IX-4 on this amendment. This design is P.E. certified.

The permittee has not addressed whether the power-line corridor will affect or disturb wetlands or riparian vegetation.

Findings:

The information provided is not considered adequate and must address the following R645 Coal Rules.

R645-301-322, The permittee must conduct a study of endangered or threatened species of plants and animals along the power line corridor.

R645-301-358.400, the permittee must discuss if the power line corridor will affect wetland and riparian vegetation.

SOILS RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 783.21; 30 CFR 817.22; 30 CFR 817.200(c); 30 CFR 823; R645-301-220; R645-301-411.

Analysis:

No topsoil will be saved since the disturbance is small, less than 0.002 acres. Each power pole installation will cause one square foot of disturbance.

Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 783.24, 783.25; R645-301-323, -301-411, -301-521, -301-622, -301-722, -301-731.

Analysis:

Permit Area Boundary Maps

The permittee has not stated in the text or illustrated on a map whether the power line is within the permit area.

Findings:

The permittee has not met the minimum requirements of this section. The following R645 Coal Rule must be addressed.

R645-301-521, the permittee must identify whether the purposed power line from the existing sub-station to the 4th East portal is within the permit area. This must be addressed by map and/or text.

TECHNICAL MEMO

OPERATION PLAN

TOPSOIL AND SUBSOIL

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 817.22; R645-301-230.

Analysis:

Removal and Storage

The permittee will not store or save the topsoil, because the disturbance of the power pole will be less than one square-foot. The total disturbance of 38 power poles will be 0.002 acres. In the event that more topsoil or vegetation is disturbed, the permittee will reclaim the disturbance as specified in Chapter VIII.C.4 in the MRP.

Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

VEGETATION

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-330, -301-331, -301-332.

Analysis:

The permittee will be disturbing 0.002 acres in the installation of a power line from the existing sub-station to the 4th East portals. This minor disturbance will not affect the vegetation in this area. In the event that more topsoil or vegetation is disturbed, the permittee will reclaim the disturbance as specified in Chapter VIII.C.4 in the MRP.

Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

HYDROLOGIC INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 773.17, 774.13, 784.14, 784.16, 784.29, 817.41, 817.42, 817.43, 817.45, 817.49, 817.56, 817.57; R645-300-140, -300-141, -300-142, -300-143, -300-144, -300-145, -300-146, -300-147, -300-147, -300-148, -301-512, -301-514, -301-521, -301-531, -301-532, -301-533, -301-536, -301-542, -301-720, -301-731, -301-732, -301-733, -301-742, -301-743, -301-750, -301-761, -301-764.

Analysis:

Exemptions for siltation structures

There will be no sediment control for the power line, since the total disturbance is less than one square-foot for each power pole. This would have no impact to the receiving waters.

Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

SUPPORT FACILITIES AND UTILITY INSTALLATIONS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.30, 817.180, 817.181; R645-301-526.

Analysis:

The permittee has submitted an amendment to construct a power line from the existing sub-station to the 4th east portals. The length of the power line will be approximately 1.4 miles. It will consist of 38 power poles. This is indicated on Plate 11-3 of this amendment. This plate is P.E. certified.

Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

RECLAMATION PLAN

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Regulatory Reference: PL 95-87 Sec. 515 and 516; 30 CFR Sec. 784.13, 784.14, 784.15, 784.16, 784.17, 784.18, 784.19, 784.20, 784.21, 784.22, 784.23, 784.24, 784.25, 784.26; R645-301-231, -301-233, -301-322, -301-323, -301-331, -301-333, -301-341, -301-342, -301-411, -301-412, -301-422, -301-512, -301-513, -301-521, -301-522, -301-525, -301-526, -301-527, -301-528, -301-529, -301-531, -301-533, -301-534, -301-536, -301-537, -301-542, -301-623, -301-624, -301-625, -301-626, -301-631, -301-632, -301-731, -301-723, -301-724, -301-725, -301-726, -301-728, -301-729, -301-731, -301-732, -301-733, -301-746, -301-764, -301-830.

Analysis:

The transmission lines will be removed, conductor cables removed, and the wood poles cut off at ground level. The Division has approved this method at several mines.

TECHNICAL MEMO

Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

TOPSOIL AND SUBSOIL

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 817.22; R645-301-240.

Analysis:

Redistribution

There will be no redistribution of topsoil to the power line corridor. The total disturbance of 38 power poles will be 0.002 acres.

Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

REVEGETATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 785.18, 817.111, 817.113, 817.114, 817.116; R645-301-244, -301-353, -301-354, -301-355, -301-356, -302-280, -302-281, -302-282, -302-283, -302-284.

Analysis:

General requirements

There will be no revegetation of this area since the power poles will be cut-off at ground level. However, in the event that the area is disturbed, the permittee will reclaim the disturbance by the approved plan.

Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

BONDING AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 800; R645-301-800, et seq.

Analysis:

Determination of bond amount

The permittee has shown a \$19,600 increase in the bond for the reclamation of the power line to the 4th East portals. The permittee has sufficient bond due to the fact the preparation plant has never been constructed.

Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

This amendment is not recommended for approval. Prior to approval, the permittee must provide the following in accordance with:

R645-301-322, The permittee must conduct a study of endangered or threatened species of plants and animals along the power line corridor.

R645-301-358.400, the permittee must discuss if the power line corridor will affect wetland and riparian vegetation.

R645-301-411.142 thru R645-301-143.2, the permittee must do a Historic and Archeological study along the power line corridor and receive clearance from SHIPO to construct the power line.

R645-301-521, the permittee must identify whether the purposed power line from the existing sub-station to the 4th East portal is within the permit area. This must be addressed by map and/or text.